



27123  
↑CUSTOMER NUMBER↑

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application No.	10/630,888
Filing Date	July 30, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michio YANAGI
Group Art Unit	2872
Examiner Name	L. Boutsikaris
Atty Docket No.	1232-5094

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
iii. ☐ Other:
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply  
ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  
iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
iv. Other:

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b. Other:

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4503,
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)  
ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§1.136 and 1.17)  
iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$790.00 enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4503 Order No. 1232-5094

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	James Hwa	Reg. No. (Atty/Agent)	42,680
Signature		Date	10/15/04

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Michio YANAGI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2872

Serial No.: 10/630,888

Examiner: L. Boutsikaris

Filed: July 30, 2003

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING ND FILTER, AND APERTURE DEVICE AND  
CAMERA HAVING ND FILTER

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to review on the merits, please amend the above identified application as follows. A Request for Continued Examination has been filed concurrently with this Preliminary Amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.